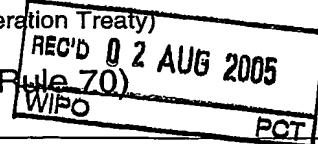


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference 200312561-2 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>See Form PCT/IPEA/416</small>	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/006900	International filing date (day/month/year) 24.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 24.06.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04Q3/00		
Applicant HEWLETT-PACKARD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, L.L.P. ET AL.		
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in Item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</i> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> <i>(sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</i></p>		
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application 		
Date of submission of the demand 18.01.2005	Date of completion of this report 02.08.2005	
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Vercauteren, S Telephone No. +31 70 340-	

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/006900

Box No. I Basis of the report

- With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
- With regard to the elements* of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

Description, Pages

1-8 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-7 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

15-55 as originally filed

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
- 3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/igs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
- 4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/igs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/006900

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	4,7
	No:	Claims	1-3,5,6
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	1-7
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-7
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/006900

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: WO 00/35205 A (TELEFON AB LM ERICSSON) 15 June 2000 (2000-06-15)
- D2: WO 00/74409 A (ERICSSON INC) 7 December 2000 (2000-12-07)
- D3: US 2002/183060 A1 (KO H-G ET AL) 5 December 2002 (2002-12-05)
- D4: US 2001/029182 A1 (MCCANN T M ET AL) 11 October 2001 (2001-10-11)

1. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) *a method of processing a signalling message* (cf. Fig 4A; page 3, lines 33-35) *received from a service application* (cf. a first user/application part) *and intended to a network element* (cf. the peer user/application part) *having a point code* (cf. page 3, lines 36-38; page 5, lines 11-15), *comprising*:

- *retrieving, from a data store* (cf. look-up table illustrated by the database 4 in Fig. 2), *an indication of the network type associated with the point code* (cf. the step above the branching point in Fig. 4A; page 4, lines 1-4; page 6, line 31 - page 7, line 5);
- *processing the signalling message through one of a plurality of protocol layers in accordance with the retrieved network type* (cf. the two branches in Fig. 4A; page 4, lines 5-8, 23-26; page 7, lines 5-8; page 8, lines 15-23).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore not new (Article 33(2) PCT).

It should be noted that a similar novelty objection can be made based on each of the documents D2-D4 (see the corresponding passages cited in the International Search Report).

2. Claim 5, defining an apparatus for processing a signalling messages, contains essentially the same subject-matter as claim 1. A similar objection (Article 33(2) PCT) therefore applies.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
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3. Dependent claims 2-4, 6 and 7 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty (Article 33(2) PCT) and/or inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), the respective additional features being obvious design measures and/or already known from the document D1.